

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 OSLO 03970 171316Z

43

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-07 SS-15 NSC-05 CIAE-00 INR-07

NSAE-00 L-03 /050 W

----- 021334

R 171129Z AUG 76

FM AMEMBASSY OSLO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2303

INFO DEPT OF COMMERCE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE OSLO 3970

COMMERCE: CONSUMER PROTECTIVE AGENCY

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: NO

SUBJECT: TALK WITH ANNEMARIE LORENTZEN, MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS

1. IN MY MEETING WITH NORWAY'S CONSUMER AND ADMINISTRATION MINISTER, ANNEMARIE LORENTZEN AND HER PERMANENT UNDERSECRETARY ON AUGUST 12, SHE EXPRESSED A LACK OF KNOWLEDGE OF AMERICAN PRIVATE AND GOVERNMENT ACTIVITY IN CONSUMER PROTECTION. SHE WOULD WELCOME AN OPPORTUNITY TO DISCUSS THIS GENERAL TOPIC WITH AN APPROPRIATE U.S. GOVERNMENT OFFICIAL.

2. I UNDERSTAND THAT REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NADER ORGANIZATION HAVE MET WITH GON OFFICIALS. MINISTER LORENTZEN DID NOT MENTION THE FACT OR SUBSTANCE OF SUCH A MEETING BUT DID ASK FOR MY VIEWS ON NADER'S CREDIBILITY AND EFFECTIVENESS.

3. MRS. LORENTZEN WAS HERSELF SOMEWHAT CRITICAL OF NORWEGIAN PRODUCT STANDARDS (E.G. FOR AUTOS) AS WAS HER UNDERSECRETARY. THE UNDERSECRETARY MADE THE POINT THAT EXCESSIVE BUREAUCRACY AND UNREALISTIC PRODUCT TESTS ACTED AS A TRADE RESTRAINT. HE AND THE MINISTER AGREED THAT SUCH RESTRAINTS TENDED TO PREVENT NORWEGIANS FROM ENJOYING LOW COST/HIGH QUALITY AMERICAN GOODS WHICH MET ADEQUATE BUT DIFFERENT SAFETY STANDARDS-U.S. PRODUCTS FOR WHICH THE NORWEGIAN MARKET WAS NOT LARGE ENOUGH TO INDUCE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 OSLO 03970 171316Z

AMERICAN MANUFACTURERS TO MODIFY THEIR PRODUCTION.

4. DISCUSSION/ BRIEFING BY U.S. OFFICIAL INVOLVED IN CONSUMER AFFAIRS WOULD BE USEFUL IN FURTHERING THE POSITIVE VIEW OF U.S. HELD BY MINISTER LORENTZEN. ADDITIONALLY, COOPERATION AND COORDINATION OF PRODUCT SAFETY STANDARDS MANY WORK TO INCREASE EXPORT OF U.S. PRODUCTS TO NORWAY. I WOULD APPRECIATE IT IF THE MINISTER'S INTEREST WERE BORNE IN MIND WHENEVER TRAVEL BY SUCH AN OFFICIAL MIGHT MAKE MEETING IN OSLO POSSIBLE.
ANDERS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: CONSUMER PROTECTION, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 17 AUG 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: izenbei0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976OSLO03970
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760315-0570
From: OSLO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760846/aaaabocd.tel
Line Count: 70
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: izenbei0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 06 MAY 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <06 MAY 2004 by ifshinsr>; APPROVED <25 AUG 2004 by izenbei0>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: TALK WITH ANNEMARIE LORENTZEN, MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS
TAGS: EIND, NO, US, (LORENTZEN, ANNEMARIE), (ANDERS, WILLIAM A)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006